



Epidemiologist 2, Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) Coordinator

Position Description:

The Surveillance Systems & Informatics (SSI) program in the Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness (CEDEP) Division at the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) is hiring an Epidemiologist 2 to serve as the Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) Coordinator. SSI is responsible for supporting the communicable disease surveillance systems, electronic laboratory and case reporting, syndromic surveillance, REDCap, and meeting the division surveillance and informatics needs.

Responsibilities:

- Develop and maintain effective professional relationships with public health professionals at the state and local offices, the information technology team, and laboratory reporting partners.
- Plan and lead laboratory reporting meetings, activities, and projects.
- Conduct onboarding of laboratory partners to include reviewing and validating HL7 messages, providing feedback to laboratory partners on errors, and collaborating with the information technology team on processing issues.
- Serve as the informatics lead and liaison to laboratory partners, the state public health laboratory, and the Emerging Infections Program academic institution.
- Co-lead the Emerging Infections Program Information Technology strategic planning efforts to focus on laboratory reporting and auditing, electronic health record access, and the streamlining of systems for case notifications.
- Utilize SAS, SQL Server Management Studio, and Tableau to validate and query messages, develop error reports for partners, and monitor data quality.
- Deliver training and technical assistance for public health laboratory reporting requirements, electronic laboratory reporting, and laboratory reporting processes in the surveillance systems.
- Actively engage in CSTE national subcommittees and working groups for Surveillance and Informatics.
- Develop reports for the quarterly progress calls with CDC, and contribute to the annual application narrative and progress updates.
- Create and update standard operating procedures for internal and external processes, such as for data management and message validation.

Knowledge and Experience:

- Applied epidemiology and surveillance experience, including data collection and management in electronic surveillance systems.
- Direct experience with the public health reporting process for surveillance, laboratory information management systems, and laboratory test types/methods and results.
- Knowledge and application of HL7 messaging and document standards, and standardized vocabulary.

Skills:

- Proficiency in SAS, R, and SQL (Structured Query Language), for creating views or tables, data cleaning and manipulation, and reporting.
- Proficiency managing complex projects, with different timelines and resources, simultaneously, and to accomplish short and long range objectives ahead of schedule.
- Proficiency developing and publishing visualizations in Tableau.
- Proficiency developing concise, instructive standard operating procedures, user guidance, and workflows.

Abilities:

- Excellent interpersonal skills, including listening, and oral and written communication skills to: collaborate with internal and external partners; liaise between partners with differing levels of technical understanding; bridge gaps in understanding by providing education and technical assistance.
- Detail-oriented, highly organized, able to multitask and prioritize, confident in managing projects, and able to self-direct on tasks.
- Highly self-motivated, a strong work ethic, and positive attitude; independent worker and contributing teammate.
- Strong critical and systems thinking skills to solve problems and innovate; dedicated to improving the effectiveness and efficiency of work processes and systems.

Qualifications:

- Master of Public Health (MPH) degree or PhD in epidemiology
- 4+ years of experience in public health, with at least 2 years in applied epidemiology or public health surveillance
- Proficiency in SAS for data management, manipulation and reporting
- Knowledge and experience working with relational databases
- Excellent communication and project management skills

Organization Description:

This position is with the Communicable and Environmental Diseases and Emergency Preparedness (CEDEP) Division of the Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) in Nashville, Tennessee: <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep.html>.

How to Apply:

Candidates should email a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to the Director of Surveillance Systems and Informatics, Shannon Harney at Shannon.Harney@tn.gov . Eligible candidates should expect to complete supplemental questions ahead of being invited to interview. Although applications will be accepted until the position is filled, interviews are expected to be completed in September.

Additional Information:

This position is a full-time, Epidemiologist 2 position, classified as Executive Service. The salary for an Epidemiologist 2 ranges from \$5,482 to \$8,772 monthly, depending on education and experience. The Tennessee Department of Health is an equal opportunity, equal access, affirmative action employer. Candidates must be legally authorized to work in the United States without sponsorship. Degrees must be from an accredited college or university. A transcript evaluation is required for degrees earned outside of the United States.